

at least one compound selected from the group consisting of (a) saturated or unsaturated, linear or branched, carboxylic acid having from 5 to 12 carbon atoms; (b) saturated or unsaturated, linear or branched, metal carboxylate having from 5 to 12 carbon atoms, and mixtures of (a) and (b);

and wherein the at least one lubricating particle comprises a material selected from the group consisting of molybdenum disulfide, tungsten disulfide, graphite carbon and polytetrafluoroethylene.

3. (Three Times Amended) The welding wire according to Claim 1, wherein the at least one compound is a carboxylic acid selected from the group consisting of pentanoic acid, caproic acid, caprylic acid, octylic acid, secanoic acid, capric acid, decanoic acid, lauric acid, linderic acid and synthetic fatty acids.

4. (Three Times Amended) The welding wire according to Claim 1, wherein the compound is a metal carboxylate that is a metal salt of a carboxylic acid selected from the group consisting of pentanoic acid, caproic acid, caprylic acid, octylic acid, secanoic acid, capric acid, decanoic acid, lauric acid, linderic acid and synthetic fatty acids; and the metal salt comprises a metal selected from the group consisting of Li, Na, Mg, Al, K, Ca, Ti, Cr, Mn, Fe, Co, Ni, Cu, Zn, Zr, Sn, Cs, Pb and Ce.

10. (Three Times Amended) The welding wire according to Claim 9, wherein the at least one compound and at least one lubricating particle are present on the wire surface in a total amount of 0.1 to 5 g per 10 kg of the wire.

12. (Three Times Amended) The welding wire according to Claim 1, wherein the at least one compound and the at least one lubricating particle are present on the wire surface in a total amount of 0.1 to 5 g per 10 kg of the wire.

13. (Amended) A method of making welding wire of Claim 1, the method comprising:
coating the wire with the deposit.--

Please add the following new claims:

--14. (New) The welding wire according to Claim 9, wherein the at least one compound is (a) the carboxylic acid, and wherein the carboxylic acid and the at least one lubricating particle are present on the wire surface in a total amount of 0.1 to 5 g per 10 kg of the wire.

15. (New) The welding wire according to Claim 1, wherein the at least one compound is the (b) metal carboxylate, and wherein the metal carboxylate and the at least one lubricating particle are present on the wire surface in a total amount of 0.1 to 5 g per 10 kg of the wire.

16. (New) The welding wire according to Claim 1, wherein the at least one compound is (b) the metal carboxylate having a metal selected from the group consisting of Li, Na, Mg, Al, K, Ca, Ti, Cr, Mn, Fe, Co, Ni, Cu, Zn, Zr, Sn, Cs, Pb and Ce.

17. (New) The welding wire according to Claim 1, wherein the at least one lubricating particle is molybdenum disulfide.

18. (New) The welding wire according to Claim 1, wherein the at least one lubricating particle is tungsten disulfide.

19. (New) The welding wire according to Claim 1, wherein the at least one lubricating particle is graphite carbon.

20. (New) The welding wire according to Claim 1, wherein the at least one lubricating particle is polytetrafluoroethylene.

21. (New) The welding wire according to Claim 1, wherein the at least one compound is a mixture of (a) and (b);

wherein (a) is a carboxylic acid selected from the group consisting of pentanoic acid, caproic acid, caprylic acid, octylic acid, secanoic acid, capric acid, decanoic acid, lauric acid, linderic acid and synthetic fatty acids; and

wherein (b) is a metal carboxylate that is a metal salt of a carboxylic acid selected from the group consisting of pentanoic acid, caproic acid, caprylic acid, octylic acid, secanoic acid, capric acid, decanoic acid, lauric acid, linderic acid and synthetic fatty acids.

22. (New) The welding wire according to Claim 1, wherein (b) is a metal carboxylate, and the metal is selected from the group consisting of Mg, Al, Ti, Cr, Mn, Fe, Co, Ni, Cu, Zn, Zr, Sn, Pb and Ce.

23. (New) The welding wire according to Claim 1, wherein the at least one compound is (a) the carboxylic acid.--

BASIS FOR THE AMENDMENTS

Claim 1 has been amended for clarity and to remove the awkward "consisting of" language regarding the carboxylic acid / metal carboxylate.

Claims 3, 4, 10, 12 and 13 have likewise been amended for clarity and to place them in better form for allowance.